AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended): A computer system, comprising:

a base;

a display enclosure pivotably secured to the base ~~housing a display; and~~

~~a securing mechanism to pivotably secure the display enclosure to the base, comprising:~~

a positioning assembly that produces a force to prevent the display enclosure from pivoting relative to the base when disposed in a first position and reduces the force to enable the display enclosure to pivot relative to the base when disposed in a second position; and

a ~~selectively actuated operator~~ switch coupled to the positioning assembly, the switch having a first state which causes the positioning assembly to be in the first position and a second state which causes the positioning assembly to be in the second position, ~~the operator being adapted to selectively remove the force preventing the display enclosure from pivoting without use of a tool.~~

2. (Original): The system as recited in claim 1, wherein the force is generated by friction.

3. (Currently Amended): The system as recited in claim 2, wherein the ~~securing mechanism~~ positioning assembly comprises a first member secured to the display enclosure, a second member secured to the base, and a force producer to drive the first and second members into contact.

4. (Currently Amended): The system as recited in claim 3, wherein the switch ~~operator is adapted to~~ prevents the force producer from driving the first and second members into contact when in the second state.

5. (Currently Amended): The system as recited in claim 1, wherein the switch~~operator~~ comprises an ~~actuator~~ operator to enable a user to change the state of the switch~~control the operator~~.

6. (Currently Amended): The system as recited in claim 5, wherein the operator ~~actuator~~ is disposed on the display enclosure.

7. (Currently Amended): The system as recited in claim 1, wherein the switch is an electrical switch~~operator is adapted to be electrically actuated~~.

8. (Currently Amended): The system as recited in claim 1, wherein the switch is a mechanical switch~~operator is mechanically actuated~~.

9. (Original): The system as recited in claim 1, wherein the base comprises a processor.

10. (Currently Amended): A clutch assembly for pivotably securing a computer display to a computer base, comprising:

a ~~first portion~~ hinge adapted to enable the computer display to pivot relative to the computer base unit; and

a ~~second portion~~ friction clutch ~~adapted to produce~~ ocoupled tothe hinge, the friction clutch producing a force to oppose pivotal motion of the display; and

a ~~third portion~~ clutch operator selectively ~~actuatable~~ switchable to produce a counter-force to the force produced by the ~~second portion~~ friction clutch to prevent the ~~second portion~~ friction clutch from opposing pivotal motion of the display.

11. (Currently Amended): The assembly as recited in claim 10, wherein the ~~third portion~~ clutch operator is ~~adapted to be~~ electrically operated.

12. (Currently Amended): The clutch assembly as recited in claim 11, further comprising a ~~fourth portion, the fourth portion being~~ manually operable switch operable to control electrical power to the clutch operator ~~third portion~~.

13. (Currently Amended): The clutch assembly as recited in claim 12, wherein the switch ~~fourth portion~~ is biased so as to not supply electrical power to the third portion.

14. (Currently Amended): The clutch assembly as recited in claim 10, wherein the ~~third portion~~ clutch operator is mechanically operated.

15. (Currently Amended): The clutch assembly as recited in claim 14, further comprising a movable member ~~fourth portion, the fourth portion being~~ manually operable to mechanically operate the clutch operator ~~third portion~~.

16. (Currently Amended): The clutch assembly as recited in claim 15, wherein the movable member ~~fourth portion~~ is biased so that the clutch operator ~~third portion~~ does not prevent the friction clutch ~~second portion~~ from opposing pivotal motion of the display.

17. (Previously Presented): A method of operating a computer system having a base unit and a pivotable display, comprising:

actuating a clutch assembly before the display is pivoted to reduce a force opposing pivotal motion of the display;

pivoting the display to a desired position; and

deactuating the clutch assembly after the display is pivoted to restore the force opposing pivotal motion of the display.

18. (Original): The method as recited in claim 17, further comprising operating the clutch assembly at a desired position of the display to reestablish the force opposing pivotal motion of the display.

19. (Original): The method as recited in claim 17, wherein operating comprises operating an actuator disposed on the display.

20. (Original): The method as recited in claim 19, wherein operating and pivoting are performed by simultaneously actuating a clutch actuator and pivoting the display.

21. (Original): The method as recited in claim 20, wherein operating and pivoting are performed using only a single hand.

22. (New): A computer assembly, comprising:

a hinge assembly to enable a display to pivot relative to a computer base;

a clutch assembly selectively operable to produce a friction force to oppose pivotal motion of the display relative to the computer base; and

an actuator selectively movable between a first position and a second position to control operation of the clutch assembly, wherein the actuator enables the clutch assembly to produce the frictional force to oppose pivotal motion of the display when the actuator is disposed in the first position, and the actuator prevents the clutch assembly

from producing the frictional force when the actuator is disposed in the second position.

23. (New): The assembly as recited in claim 21, wherein a spring biases the actuator to the first position.